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TO: United States Patent & Trademark Office **FROM:** Rick Stevens
ATTN: Examiner Ja-Na Hines
FAX NO: 703-308-4242 **DATE:** November 7, 2000
RE: U.S. Pat. Appln. Ser. No. 08/818,534

NO. OF PAGES TO FOLLOW: 4

REMARKS:

Dear Examiner Hines:

As discussed, a proposed amendment has been prepared for the interview on November 29, 2000 and the same follows.

Very Truly Yours,



Richard L. Stevens, Jr.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Wilfred H. Nelson et al. **GROUP:** 1641
SERIAL NO: 08/818,534 **EXAMINER:** J. Hines
FILED: 03/14/97
FOR: **DIRECT DETECTION OF BACTERIA-ANTIBODY
COMPLEXES VIA UV RESONANCE RAMAN
SPECTROSCOPY**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims:

9. (Twice Amended) A method for [the] detecting the presence of a specific microorganism in a sample, said microorganism having a characteristic resonance enhanced Raman backscattered energy spectrum produced by irradiating nucleic acids in said microorganisms at a wavelength between 242-257 nm, comprising:

(a) contacting said sample with a medium comprising solid phase immobilized antibodies which specifically bind to a characteristic cell surface antigen on said microorganism to form an antigen-antibody complex, thereby immobilizing said microorganism on said solid phase;

(b) irradiating the solid phase of step (a) with a laser light of 242-257 nm to produce a resonance enhanced Raman backscattered energy, said antibodies emitting essentially

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